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# SPEECHES DELIVERED ON THE OCCASION OF A DINNER TO HIS EXCELLENCY JULES CAMBON



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# DINNER TO HIS EXCELLENCY JULES CAMBON

AMBASSADOR OF FRANCE
TO THE
UNITED STATES

One Thousand Copies printed in February, 1903, by The Grafton Press, 70 Fifth Avenue, New York

#### DINNER TO

#### HIS EXCELLENCY JULES CAMBON

AMBASSADOR OF FRANCE TO THE UNITED STATES

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MR. CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW

AND

MR. JAMES H. HYDE



AT SHERRY'S NOVEMBER FIFTEENTH MCMII



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#### THE SPEAKERS



SENATOR CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW

MR. JAMES H. HYDE

HIS EXCELLENCY JULES CAMBON

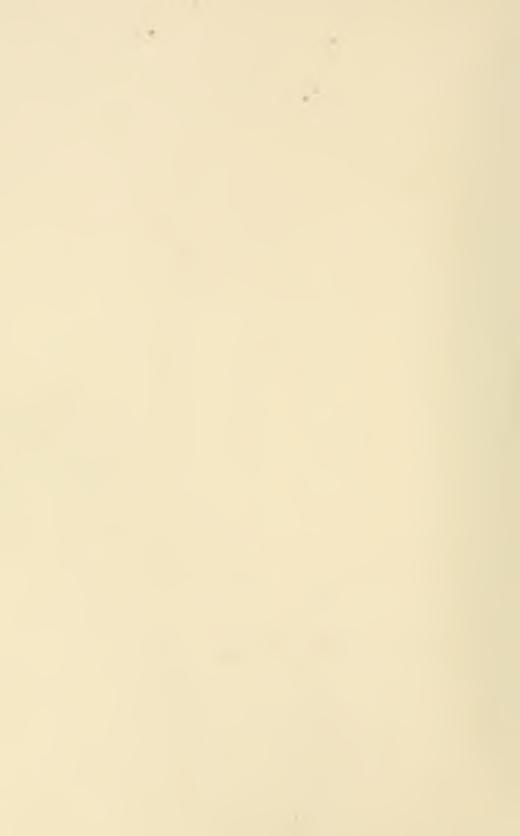
HON. ELIHU ROOT

PRESIDENT CHARLES WILLIAM ELIOT

ARCHBISHOP IRELAND



# MR. CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW



#### SPEECH OF SENATOR CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW

R. HYDE and myself are most happy to greet you this evening. We are delighted that for a cordial good-by and God-speed to the French Ambassador there should be present such a representative company of Americans.

There are represented here to-night the Executive Department, the Legislative Department, and the Judicial Department of our nation, and the country's literature, journalism, law, finance, and Church.

The relations between France and the United States have been picturesque for a hundred and fifty years. The most romantic chapters of the history of the early settlement of our country are the voyages of Champlain, La Salle, Marquette, and the other Frenchmen whose adventure, skill, and genius discovered and mapped out the lakes and rivers which have made possible the vast internal commerce of the country. Later, at the most critical period of the Revolutionary War, when the prospects of success were darkest, France recognized the independence of our country and formed an alliance with us for its maintenance. Second only to Washington in our affections is the

brilliant young Frenchman who cast his lot with us in the beginning and remained true to our cause until the hour of triumph-Lafayette. Next to him is that great soldier, Rochambeau, whose splendid army and whose cordial co-operation with General Washington brought about the surrender of the British at Yorktown and the independence of the United States. Since then, the relations between the two countries have been of courtesy and friendship rather than of trade and commerce. We are to celebrate next year the acquisition from France of the Louisiana territory, which has been of such incalculable benefit to our country. exposition which is to commemorate this purchase, the terms of which made the conveyance practically a gift from France, is to be the most important and significant of the long line of industrial fairs which have originated in the desire to celebrate the discovery and development of the country. It is desirable that among the first in welcome as well as in display at this great exposition at St. Louis shall be the generous nation from whose transfer has come to us so large a measure of the power, wealth, and happiness of the country.

The current of diplomacy from the time of the Louisiana purchase followed smoothly on until the breaking out of the Spanish War. It was a matter of vital moment to us that Europe should re-

main neutral. Hundreds of years of neighborhood, of intimate relations, of common interchanges, extensive commerce and financial obligations, had created the closest ties between Spain and France. Happily, France had at Washington a statesman and a diplomat whose intimate knowledge of our country and of our situation enabled him to keep his government so perfectly informed that official France remained absolutely neutral in the contest.

It is very difficult for a representative of a foreign power whose people speak a different language and whose traditions are also different from those of the country to which he is accredited to be more than the mere Ambassador of his Government. It is thus that the capable ministers of France who were sent to us for a hundred years past had their relations mainly, if not solely, with the State Department and with the President. But the distinguished statesman and diplomat who is our guest to-night extended his activities. He learned our language, absorbed the genius of our institutions, and was touched by the spirit of our people. He visited our great educational institutions, and spoke acceptably and significantly for the promotion of that study of languages which should bring closer together the people of his country and our own. He appeared before our great commercial bodies and gave information upon which to found a closer and more intimate commercial relationship between our two countries. He has been a welcome contributor to our journals, and always in a way most instructive and beneficial. If the task of learning our language was difficult, he has performed a much more difficult one—he has won our hearts.

Now, gentlemen, one of the hosts here to-night is the President of the Federation of the Alliance Française, a society which has done much and is doing much all the while to promote the best of relations between France and the United States. I have the pleasure of introducing a gentleman who has done very much in his own person to promote these relations and to extend the usefulness of the Alliance Française—Mr. James H. Hyde. (Applause.)

# MR. JAMES H. HYDE



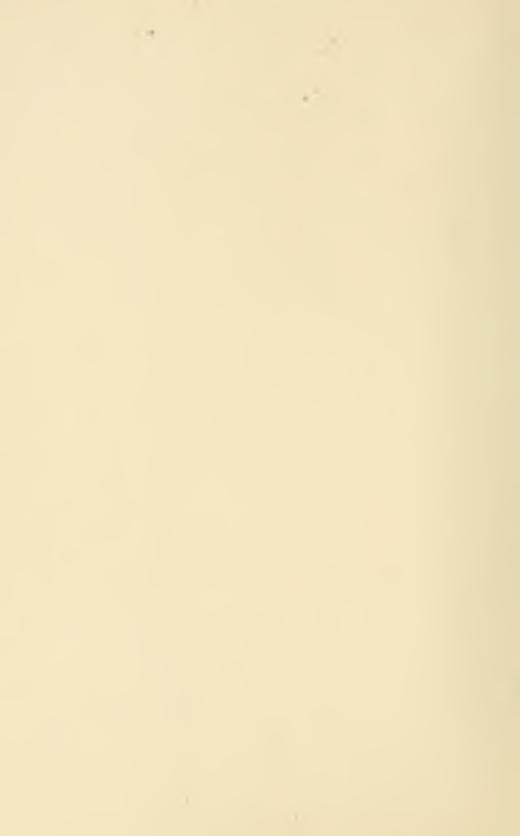
SPEECH OF MR. JAMES H. HYDE

R. DEPEW, Your Excellency, and Gentlemen: In view of the fact that Mr. Depew has already so well expressed what His Excellency the French Ambassador has done in every possible way to unite the two great sister Republics and to make them better understand each other, I shall merely, as one of the representatives of the educational and university side of the Ambassador's work, assume the great honor and privilege of proposing, first, the health of His Excellency, Monsieur Loubet, the President of the French Republic. (Toast drunk standing.)

Secondly, for I know that it will be most agreeable to Monsieur Cambon, I shall propose the health of the President of the United States. (Toast drunk standing.) And, last, gentlemen, but not least, the health of His Excellency the French Ambassador, whom I hope we may call our common good friend. (Applause.) (Toast drunk standing.) Allow me, in closing, to thank you all for having come, some of you from a great distance, to testify, in what I consider such a representative body, to our admiration for France and its able representative. (Applause.)



## MONSIEUR CAMBON



#### SPEECH OF MONSIEUR CAMBON

how much I am impressed by your splendid reception. I cannot express how much I thank Senator Depew and my friend, Mr. Hyde, and I thank you, also, gentlemen, the flower of America, for your kindness. And my thanks are a little mixed with melancholy because I leave America and my American friends. With your permission, although I am sure those of you at this banquet who speak French are very numerous, I will continue in French. (Applause.)

Speaking in French, the Ambassador went on:
Senator Depew said a short while ago, in very kind words, that I had succeeded in entering here into your various American circles, and that perhaps I had somewhat modified the opinion of my country which existed in the American mind. I am very thankful to Mr. Depew for these words. There is nothing I could more appreciate than his assurances of the friendship which I leave behind me in the United States.

But, gentlemen, no matter what may be the measure of the kind remarks which are addressed to me, I have a very good sense that in the actions of an Ambassador nothing has real value, nothing

has real importance but that which is a true expression of the sentiments of the people of his country. And allow me to say it, of all this kindness, of all this applause which greeted Senator Depew's too flattering remarks, I desire to keep in remembrance only that part which was intended for France, for I have, myself, never done anything but to represent her sentiments, her sympathies, and her friendship for the United States.

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Senator Depew has rapidly reviewed the part which France has played in your history since those very first and arduous days when she sent her volunteers and her regulars to aid General Washington in the great War of Independence. He recalled the act by which France ceded to your country the great territory of Louisiana, then comprising the whole of the Mississippi and the West. He recalled again the more recent circumstances during which France was found once more side by side with America when the latter, obeying the voice of her people, undertook to extend its influence beyond this continent and across the seas.

Well, gentlemen, if at all these solemn periods of your history you have found France more or less associated with you and in sympathy with the ends that you pursued, think not that it has been due to mere coincidence. If on all these occasions the two peoples have gone on hand in hand, without ever a serious misunderstanding, it has been owing to something more, too, than mere political interests. It was because of the bond, the relationship, which certainly exists between our two histories.

I have had the feeling that this was the case, and, being convinced that there exists to-day between our peoples something which is not political or commercial interest, but which is to be found in the community of institutions by which the two Republics are following the same end of government of the people by the people and for the people; and, perceiving that this created a tie different from the ties which unite other nations to one another, I held it my greatest duty to study and to make known this community of inspiration, this community of purpose, which, indeed, exists solely between French and American democracy.

That is why you have seen me traversing the country from north to south and from east to west, instead of quietly remaining at Washington; that is why you have seen me visiting in particular the universities where your great American democracy is being fostered.

If I have succeeded in my earnest endeavor the honor is due to my country, to the sentiments of my countrymen; the thanks are due to you, to the sympathies which you have manifested before me; and these latter, I am well aware, rise far above the

personality of the man now about to leave you, who, after all, has been but the mere interpreter of France. These sympathies are the dearest remembrances that I shall carry away with me. Once more I thank you for them. May there never be a cloud between your country and mine. (Loud applause.)

Mr. Depew: I am happy to be informed by M. Cambon that he is satisfied that most of the audience understand French. (Laughter.)

We have not with us this evening, I am sorry to say, the President of the United States, because he is shooting bears in Mississippi. The Bears are never all in Wall Street. (Laughter.) While we are deprived of the pleasure of having our President, we have with us two members of the Cabinet, and I have the pleasure of introducing our own distinguished citizen of our own State, the Secretary of War.

## MR. ROOT



SPEECH OF HON. ELIHU ROOT

R. SENATOR, Mr. Hyde, Mr. Ambassador, and Gentlemen: It is a melancholy duty to help you, sirs, in speeding this parting guest. Monsieur Cambon has been an (Applause.) ideal Ambassador. He has not merely defended, maintained, promoted the interests of his own country, but he has illustrated and made attractive and charming to the people to whom he was accredited all that was noblest and best in the people of his own country. (Applause.) In our modern days, where peace and not war is the normal condition of man, the victories of peace consist not in wresting territory from a hostile people, nor in carrying away from their capitals their works of art, pictures or statues, or their wealth, but in gathering, the world over, all that is best in the lessons of national life and in the influences of national character, to help build up, more fully develop, completely round a competent national character.

The Teutonic race has characterized and marked the development of this great new world to a degree which leads us often to forget how much we owe and how much we can derive from the great Latin race, which has given so much toward the development of civilization, and which can give so much that we lack toward our own progress, toward the perfection of national and personal life of which we dream. (Applause.)

Monsieur Cambon has illustrated to us all that was best in the Latin world. I have been sorry that he learned to speak English. I understand him better, but the grace, the beauties of his French always seem to me to raise a picture of the golden fields of grain of his country spangled with bluets and coquelicots, always seem to bring into our rougher and ruder Teutonic civilization something of the infinite grace and beauty and taste with which the French people are endowing civilization. (Applause.)

How much we owe to it! Go back over the long history, from those early and stormy days when the Plantagenets went forth from their castles on the Loire across the seas to the conquest of England; to the War of the Hundred Years; to Louis XI., with his leaden saints, beating down the aristocracy of France; to Henry IV., the beaudeal of chivalric knighthood, to whom a race of kings unequalled in human history looked back with honor and pride and reverence; to the great, the greatest of warriors, who with the power of that single nation withstood the armies of the world and gave the death-blow to the hide-bound

institutions which, for centuries, dwarfed and bound the developing powers of civilization; to the new Republic, whose footsteps we have all followed with hopes and prayers for its success and its permanency, as, during these thirty years, it was proving itself a most important, most significant stronghold of popular rights, of popular sovereignty, and of hopes for the future of the peoples of the earth—of the plain peoples of the earth in Through all the long course of the centuries, under the Plantagenets of Anjou, under Louis XI., under the great Louis XIV., under Napoleon the great soldier, under the new Republic, the French people have been doing, with pain, with travail, with infinite labor and sacrifice, the work of civilization and of liberty. (Applause.)

Through it all the sunshine of La Belle France has caused to blossom on the sour and stern soil of feudalism, not merely royalty, and aristocratic privilege, but the germs of chivalry and grace and beauty, and the beneficence of art—abundant blessings to mankind which soften and sweeten and ennoble and dignify humanity. (Applause.) All this Monsieur Cambon represents to us. (Applause.)

It is not the least of his claims to our affection that in those dark days for Spain, when the hard and unbending decrees of fate required that this

great Republic should put an end to Spain's dominion in the Western hemisphere, when that people whose dignity, whose personal worth, whose abounding and estimable qualities we all recognize, was compelled to yield to overwhelming power, he was their fitting and sympathetic representative and defender. (Applause.) I hope that when Monsieur Cambon goes to his new mission in Madrid he will be able with certainty to say to the gentlemen of Spain that he left behind him in America nothing but respect and esteem and admiration for them. (Applause.) I hope he will tell them that his advocacy of their cause, to which he brought all the subtlety of intellect, all the ability of the trained diplomatist of France, has but raised him in our esteem, and given him an added title to our respect. (Applause.) And it is delightful to know that this, our friend, whom we have learned to esteem so highly, is going among those whose gratitude he has earned and whose affection he must have. (Applause.) Our best and warmest hopes go with him for his success and his promotion of blessings and prosperity for the people of Spain and the people of France alike. Success and glory to him in his new field! Who knows what he may accomplish? Who knows what this virile, acute, and discriminating mind may do in the Iberian Peninsula? (Applause.) Who knows but he may lead to the union

of the Gaul and the Visigoth? Who knows but from his agency may come sometime a great Latin republican empire on the continent of Europe?

Our best wishes go with you, sir. We shall follow your pathway with interest and affection. We hope for great things for you; we wish great blessings for your country and the country to which you go. We bid you good-by, we bid you Godspeed, and above all we say to you "Au revoir, Monsieur Cambon!" (Applause.)

Mr. Depew: In the manifold relations in which M. Cambon has appeared in American life there is none which has been more significant or charming or instructive than his presence in our universities. There have come here to-night the presidents of many of them, including those of all the old universities, for the purpose of extending to him this cordial farewell. I have the pleasure of introducing the president of the oldest and the most reverenced college of them all, President Eliot, of Harvard.



#### PRESIDENT ELIOT



#### SPEECH OF PRESIDENT ELIOT

R. SENATOR, Mr. Hyde, Gentlemen:
We are all glad to acknowledge how
much we are capable of learning from a courteous, friendly, distinguished Frenchman. But we should like to testify on this occasion (we have already testified on this occasion how much we owe to France), we should like to testify to the joy that all Americans have in the establishment in Europe of a firm Republic. We have rejoiced to see the French Republic dealing strongly and successfully with some of the most difficult problems that governments have to deal with, -with grave educational problems, with grave religious problems, and with industrial problems graver still. In these achievements of the new France we recognize the fact that a new democracy has founded itself solidly in the heart of Europe; and we democrats rejoice in that fact, and we beg our distinguished guest to tell his compatriots that this Republic heartily rejoices in the firm, assured existence of the French Republic. (Great applause.) are specially glad for the strength that the Republic exhibits. There has been a theory in the world that only Empires can be strong. We have given a demonstration to the contrary.

France is giving another, a new demonstration. We came from Teutonic stock, France from the Latin. The first settlers in this country were Protestants in every sense. France is Catholic. This is a new demonstration, gentlemen, that a democracy can be firm, strong, and supreme.

We have lately, to be sure, felt some hesitation whether there were not in our own country powers stronger than our Government. We have had occasion to observe that combined capital seemed to regard the Government of our country as a secondary power. We have also observed that combined labor seemed to regard the Government of our country as a secondary power. But it is not so, gentlemen, and the coming years are going to demonstrate that the American democracy has the supreme authority in the continent it occupies. (Great applause.) (Renewed.) Two or three of the preceding speakers have spoken of obligations of our country to France. These obligations are great and various. They are military, political, educational, and artistic. I have sometimes thought that the object of supreme interest in France was the skilled artisan, the artistic artisan, the artistic craftsman. How different are our industries from the French. Ours are of the rudest sort—the industries of agriculture and mining. Theirs of the most artistic sort. I read to-day a statement that France produced the luxuries of life. It certainly produces the beauties of life, the delights of life. (Applause.) We possess only the raw material of prosperity.

But now, gentlemen, in view of the heavy obligations of all sorts that we owe to France the Beautiful, what sort of a message should we like to have our distinguished friend here present convey to his countrymen on his return? Should we not all be glad to have him say: "America recognizes its obligations to France." What does a man do who recognizes his obligations to a friend? Does not the man try to do something in return, something to testify to his gratitude and his admiration? Now, we can do something for France. We can do, out of our wealth, something that France would like to have us do to promote the wel fare of France. May we not all hope together that our people, that our Government, will do that thing? May there not be friendliness, sympathy, admiration and gratitude in the relation of one nation to Must we always think of our own another? interests only? We all know that this rich, strong, powerful nation can do much to promote the material interests and artistic interests of France.

I wish our guest of the evening could say on his return: "Those Americans are going to do some-

thing for France, just because France wants it, just because France would like it." (Applause.)

Now, Monsieur Cambon alluded to a certain melancholy which he felt in withdrawing from service in our country, and two or three of the other speakers have echoed that thought. I do not sympathize with those sentiments of regret. Monsieur Cambon has had a noble career here. (Applause.) He goes back to further honorable service of his country in his chosen profession. His career goes on. We hope he will come back to see us again. (Applause.) But we want to-night to congratulate him on his career in this country, to give him joy of it, and to express the hope that it will always be to him a happy memory. (Applause.)

Senator Depew: Gentlemen, I shall ask, not a benediction, but a farewell, from a gentleman who, eminent as he is in all the world as an ecclesiastic, nevertheless is first and foremost always as an American citizen; who, by his eloquence and attitude toward capital and labor, and by the words that he has eloquently and wisely spoken for the peace of all of the classes of the United States, has endeared his personality to all the people of the United States. That word of farewell will be spoken by Archbishop Ireland.

## ARCHBISHOP IRELAND



## SPEECH OF ARCHBISHOP IRELAND

ONSIEUR CAMBON: Is it not plain to you this evening that America makes willing recognition of the work done by you while you tarried with her, of the regard and the affection for herself and her institutions that characterized your career as France's representative at her capital? This evening it will not be said that republics are ungrateful. Certainly toward you America is not ungrateful.

The country hails you. The guests gathered within this banquet-hall are not the citizens of New York. They are the citizens of New York, and, also, the citizens of Boston, of Philadelphia, of St. Louis, of Chicago, of New Orleans: they are the spokesmen of the whole country. Together, one and all, they salute you and proffer you their homage. Officially, too, the nation speaks: the Chief Executive of the Republic has sent by letter his cordial greetings; so, too, his Secretary of State; and present with us is his Secretary of War to greet you by living word, to toast you as the warm friend of America.

Monsieur Cambon, long will your name live in the memory of America. (Applause.) Americans, Monsieur Cambon deserves our gratitude and our affection. You all have known his courtesy and his regard toward America while he has been in America. I have been able, in a particular manner, to observe throughout France the effects upon that country of his love for America. Wherever he went when revisiting France he spoke admiringly of the Republic of the West; he spoke affectionately of the American people. (Applause.) He labored with energy and with success to uproot any sentiment of mistrust that might have been lingering in the minds of any class of Frenchmen toward America. As our honored Chairman has well remarked, very much is due to Monsieur Cambon for the position which the Government of France took toward us during the late American-Spanish War, which I know (and this was said to me again and again by our Ambassador, Mr. Horace Porter) was not only that of neutrality, but of neutrality the most considerate, the most kindly.

Monsieur Cambon, you have decidedly established between America and France reciprocity of friendship. (Applause.) It would have taken but very little further effort on your part to have established reciprocity of commerce. (Applause.) Hearts, after all, are potent guides, even in the commercial affairs of nations. When men meet who esteem one another, who love one another, things are said and done which would not have been

said and done, had it been theirs only to listen to the cold calculations of interests.

M. Cambon, we thank you. In you we see your great country, La Grande France; through you we thank France.

You have said it, gallant, chivalrous as you are—in your regard and affection toward America, you represented France. I accept your words. I confirm them as most true. I have travelled through France; I have spent years within her frontiers; I know France; I know her statesmen; I know her people; I know her heart. And that is my testimony of France (I am glad to speak it openly in a representative assembly of Americans such as that which I am now addressing)—in the bosom of France there is an abiding friendship, beautiful and strong, for America.

Frenchmen have not forgotten that French blood did flow in union with American blood to establish the Republic of the West. When they behold the Stars and Stripes, they feel that they have a proprietorship of honor in the noble flag; and anxious they are for its glory. The glory of America is the continuation of the glory of France. To-day throughout France, families recall with pride that ancestors of theirs fought with Lafayette and Rochambeau. It is an envied honor in France to be the descendant of an old American

soldier. Frenchmen will ever remember that once on battle-fields, where a cause most precious was at stake, they were "frères-d'armes" with the sons of America, and together with those they will ever love the victorious embodiment of that cause—the Republic of the United States.

In their turn Americans do not forget that, in their hour of need, help—help most generous, most effective—came to them from France, that without France's soldiers, without Lafayette and Rochambeau, the Declaration of Independence of 1776 would have been, at the time, nothing more than a sublime, but vain, appeal to liberty and to justice.

They know, furthermore, that the spirit of the Declaration of Independence is the self-same spirit that to-day animates the political institutions of France.

Our hearts go out to the Republic of France. We pray that she may endure. The destruction or the weakening of the Republic of France would be the weakening of democracy; we ourselves should feel the wound. So long as democracy is borne aloft by America and France, we have in it confidence unbounded. America and France are unconquerable; institutions upheld by America and France are imperishable. (Applause.)

It is well for the better and stronger life of both

countries that there does exist this spirit of union and of friendship between America and France. Each one has much by which the other may profit.

Americans have many great and good things to their credit. Ours is a continent the like of which, according to de Tocqueville, Providence never gave to a people, so fertile in soil, so health-giving in climate, so inexhaustible in resources. We have grown in numbers from three millions to nearly one hundred millions. We are growing so fast that we are dazed as we look forward to what we shall be a century hence. We have grown in commercial power, through the fertility of our soil, the skill of our workmen, the acute mind of our capitalists and our leaders of industry. With our commercial activities we are invading the world. We are everywhere with the fruits of our farms, the products of our workshops, the marvels of our genius for invention. In this, certainly, we have no reason to envy France, to envy whatever nation upon the face of the globe. But business enterprise and commercial conquest do not exhaust the aspirations of a people, do not suffice for their social completeness. There are other things that we need, and for those we may look to France, to draw with profit to ourselves from the abundance of her storehouses. Heretofore in America we have had but little time to bring into our lives the

culture of civilization, the sweetness of art, the elegance of all that is best in idealism. We have been so much occupied with the realities of life that we have not yet sufficiently concentrated our thoughts on the higher regions which are the native home of the better and the greater man. Well, of poetry, of idealism, of sweetness of culture, of rich elevated thought, France is the chosen land: we shall extend the hand toward her, and receive from her some of her riches to beautify therewith our beloved America, to make therewith America not only the greatest commercial nation, but at the same time, the sweetest and the best among the civilized people of the earth. (Applause.)

And while receiving from France what we need, may we not be giving to France that which, perhaps, Monsieur Cambon, she needs? It is said that France, in her soarings toward the ideal, forgets somewhat the solid ground upon which her feet should rest. To be, nowadays at least, a great nation, to remain a great nation, a country, while fully mindful of the ideal, must see that the material is within its reach. The material is the footstool upon which we stand, from which alone we can safely lift ourselves toward the skies. Well, let France see and know America and learn from her. Steadfastness of purpose, activity of labor, economy of strength, vastness of conceptions and

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unbending resolve to realize them—these are America's treasures, and these her gifts to nations that come into closest contact with her.

The real and the ideal—America and France! Let the one give to the other; let the one receive from the other; let the two go hand in hand: and they rise amid nations the wonderment of the civilized world. (Applause.)

And so, Monsieur Cambon, in re-crossing the Atlantic, take with you, we pray you, the kindliest remembrance of America. Forget us not; be our representative to the peoples of Europe; when among them you hear mention made of America say to them that you have known her, and that you are her friend. We shall not forget you. Your name will long remain with us, as that of one who sought sincerely to know us, who understood us, who mingled as one of ourselves in our national commemorations and our social joys, who, we believed, while going from us leaves in America no small part of his heart's affections.

And so, too, Monsieur Cambon, as you set foot on your native soil, give to France our cordial salute. Speak to her our wishes for her peace, her welfare, her glory. A great nation she has been; such she still is; such may she ever be. Say to her that magnificent historic traditions bind vitally America to her. Friends they are, those two noble nations—America and France; friends be they for ever! (Applause.)

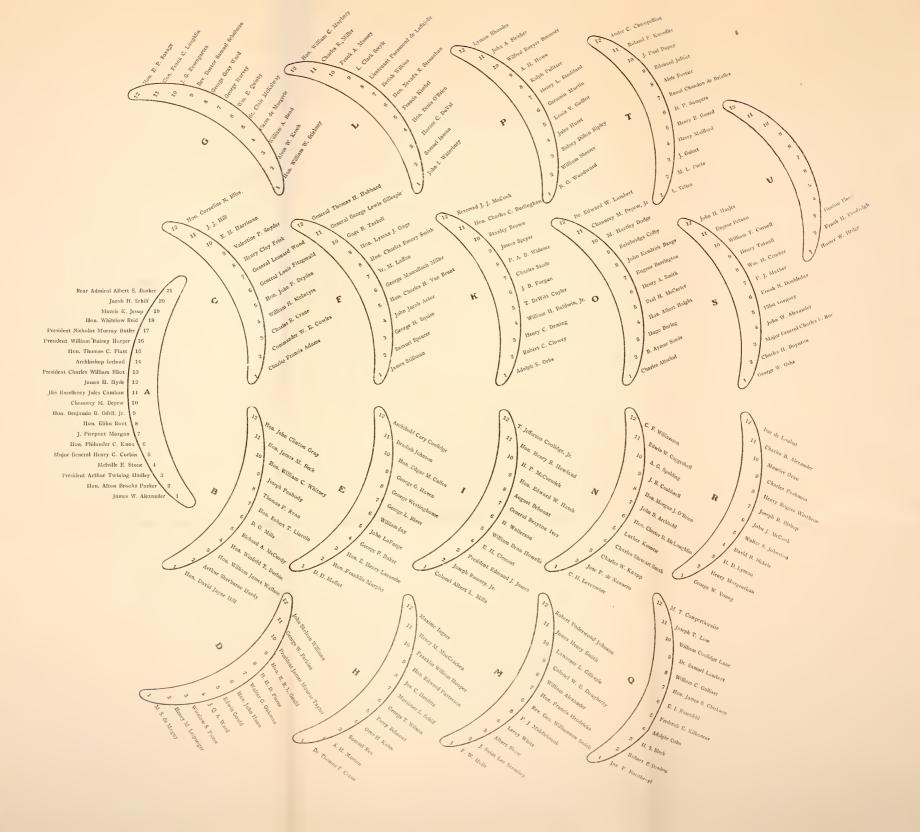
Senator Depew: My friends, this closes the formal part of our farewell to Monsieur Cambon. I trust, however, that the informal part, that of the meeting and greeting so many gentlemen, acquaintances, and friends, who have been brought from all parts of the country for this purpose, may continue indefinitely; and in closing the formal part, I think we may all rise and wish bon voyage, God-speed, long life, health, happiness, and the gratification of all his ambitions to Ambassador Cambon. (Applause.)















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